

Appl. No. : 10/675,060
Filed : September 30, 2003

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider the above-captioned application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Double Patenting Rejection

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-12 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claim 1, 2, 7 and 14 of U.S. Patent No. 6,660,030 and various references. Without acknowledging the appropriateness of the double patenting rejection, Applicant has chosen to file a Terminal Disclaimer (attached) to overcome these rejections. The attached Terminal Disclaimer is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321 and is signed by a registered attorney of record. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

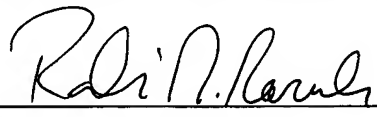
CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections set forth in the outstanding Office Action are inapplicable to the present claims. Accordingly, early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is most earnestly solicited.

The undersigned has made a good faith effort to respond to all of the rejections in the case and to place the claims in condition for immediate allowance. Nevertheless, if any undeveloped issues remain or if any issues require clarification, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call Applicant's attorney in order to resolve such issue promptly.

Respectfully submitted,
KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

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